



THE BASILICA OF
SAINT MARY
Founded 1795 - Alexandria, Virginia

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) Calendar 2025-2026

Date and Time: Mondays, 7:00-8:30 p.m.; Rites held on different dates/times.

Location: Basilica of Saint Mary Lyceum Auditorium (313 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA)

Materials: Bible (RSV), Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), Outlines of the Catholic Faith

*The Basilica will provide each inquirer with his/her own copy of these materials.

**CCC readings are assigned by paragraphs, not pages.

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2025: calendar as of 08/20/25

August 25	OCIA Team Meeting and Dinner, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
September 1, 8	No Sessions. Labor Day is September 1
September 14	Blessing of Catechists/Oath of Fidelity during the 11:30 a.m. Mass
September 15	1. First Class/Welcome, Introductions/What is the OCIA process?
September 22	2. Faith and Reason (CCC 144-165. Ps 8:1-5, Wis 13:1-9, Jn 1:1-18, Eph 3:14-17)
September 29	3. Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition, and the Magisterium (<i>Dei Verbum</i> . Ps 119:103-105, Jn 20:21-23, 30-31, 2 Thess 2:15, Eph 1:9-10, 13-14, Mt 28:18-20)
October 6	4. Salvation History (CCC 51-67, 355-412, 702-730. Ezek 37:1-14, Eph 1:3,5,7-9)
October 13	No Session – Columbus Day
October 20	5. The Creed and One God (CCC 185-260. Isa 44:6, Heb 1:2)
October 27	6. The Holy Trinity, Part I (CCC 430-478, 484-486, 687-741. Gen 1:1-2, 18:2-5, Jn 14-23)
November 3	7. The Holy Trinity, Part II (fundamentals + art + prayers)
November 10	8. The Catholic Church (CCC 748-865. Eph 5:25-32, Jn 17:20-21, I Cor 2:7-13, 1 Pt 2:4-5)
November 16	Rite for Entrance into the Catechumenate (unbaptized) and of Welcoming the Candidates (baptized) during the 1:00 p.m. Sunday Mass; Inquirers & sponsors attend
November 17	9. Judgement, Heaven, Hell, and Purgatory (CCC 1020-1050. 1 Tim 2:4, Jn 17:21-25. Wis 2:23-24. Philippians 1:21, Rom 14: 10, 12 Macc 12:44, Mt. 25:31-46)
November 24	10. The Sacraments/The Liturgical Calendar (CCC 1113-1130, 1210-1211)
December 1	11. The Mass Explained (CCC 1322-1344. Ps. 116:12-13, 17, Heb 7:25-27, Mal 1:11) <i>*meet in the Basilica</i>
December 8	7:00 p.m. Mass –Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation
December 14	Basilica Advent Social (6:00 p.m. Christmas Tree Lighting, Carols, Reception in the Courtyard; rain date December 17 at 4:30 p.m.)
December 15	12. The Blessed Virgin Mary (CCC 487-507 + Assumption readings)
December 22	No Session. Christmas Break, Nativity of the Lord, December 25, a Holy Day of Obligation
December 29	No Session. Christmas Break, Solemnity of Mary, January 1, a Holy Day of Obligation

2026:

January 5	13. Church and Sacristy Tour (CCC 1179-1199. Col 1:18, Rev 19:8) <i>*meet in the Basilica, include Virginia Nyce</i>
January 12	14. Baptism and Confirmation (CCC 1212-1314) preceded by Rite of Entrance into the Catechumenate (unbaptized) and of Welcoming the Candidates (baptized) preceding class at 6:40 p.m. in the Basilica; Inquirers & sponsors attend
January 19	No Session – MLK Jr. Day
January 26	15. The Holy Eucharist (CCC 1322-1405) preceded by Minor Exorcism, Blessing and Anointing of the Catechumens at 6:40 p.m. with sponsor/proxy
January 31	OCIA Retreat/Pilgrimage (Prayer, CCC 2558-2565, 2599-2615, 2697-2745 and Sacred Scripture and Spiritual Reading)
February 2	16. Confession and Anointing of the Sick (CCC 1420-1532) preceded by Minor Exorcism with Blessing of the Catechumens at 6:40 p.m. with sponsor/proxy
February 9	17. Holy Orders and Holy Matrimony (CCC 1533-1666)
February 16	No Session – Presidents’ Day
February 18	Ash Wednesday, Lent Begins
February 22 1 st Sunday of Lent	Rite of Sending the Catechumens (unbaptized) at the Basilica of St. Mary during the 11:30 a.m. Mass and Rite of Election at ~2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More, Arlington, VA w/Bishop Burbidge. Catechumens & sponsors attend
February 23	18. Morality – Formation of Conscience, Sin, and Grace (CCC 1700-1756; 1776-1794; 1846-1869; 1949-2016)
March 1 2 nd Sunday of Lent	Penitential Rite (Scrutiny) for baptized Candidates during 11:30 a.m. Mass; Candidates and sponsors/proxies attend
March 2	19. Commandments 1-3 (CCC 2083-2188) preceded by Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion at 6:30 p.m. in the Basilica; Candidates & sponsors/proxies attend
March 8 3 rd Sunday of Lent	First Scrutiny for the Elect during 1:00 p.m. Mass; Elect and sponsors/proxies attend
March 9	20. Commandments 4 and 5 (CCC 2196-2317) preceded by Handing On of the Creed to the Elect at 6:40 p.m. in the Basilica
March 15 4 th Sunday of Lent	Second Scrutiny for the Elect within 11:30 a.m. Mass; Elect and sponsors attend
March 16	21. Commandments 6 and 9 (CCC 2331-2391, 2514-2527)
March 22 5 th Sunday of Lent	Third Scrutiny for the Elect within 1:00 p.m. Mass; Elect and sponsors attend
March 23+	OCIA Interviews, 30 min. each with EH, JS, PC, JM, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Rectory
March 29	Palm Sunday; start of Holy Week
March 30	Confession talk followed by First Confessions for baptized Candidates and Handing On of the Lord’s Prayer to the Elect <i>*meet in the Basilica</i>
April 4 Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil Rehearsal for all @ 10:30 a.m. w/ Rites of Immediate Preparation for Catechumens Easter Vigil Mass beginning ~ 8:00 p.m. (Elect, Candidates, sponsors seated 30 minutes before start time)
April 6	No Session – Easter Monday
April 13	22. Commandments 7-8, 10 (CCC 2401-2503, 2534-2550)
April 20	23. Universal Call to Holiness, Vices and Virtues (CCC 1762-1770, 1803-1832, 1865-1866)
April 27	24. Evangelization, Apostolates (CCC 849-856; 2044-2046; 2225; 2471-2474)
May 4	25. Christian Discipleship, Sanctifying Daily Life, Apostolates